

K3 – Lesson 21 – The Bride of Christ

Purpose: To behold the Glory of God – John 17

God desires a family for Himself and a Bride for His Son Jesus

Ephesians 5:22-33; Gen. 2:18-24

Rev. 19:7-9

I Cor. 6:17

II Cor. 11:2

I Cor. 7:32-35

Gal. 3:28

The Bridal Mantle

“The bridal paradigm refers to having a bridal perspective of the kingdom. (Paradigm refers to one’s perspective or view). We see the kingdom through the eyes of a Bride with wholehearted loyal love. It focuses on Jesus’ beauty and affection and how they are imparted to God’s people.”

“Jesus was the first to introduce the bridal paradigm to the Church. Jesus referred to Himself as a Bridegroom (Mt. 9:15); He compared the kingdom to His Father arranging a marriage for Him (Mt. 22:2); He described ministry as those encountering Him as a Bridegroom (Mt. 25:1); He will return in answer to the prayers of His Church crying out in her bridal identity (Rev. 22:17).”

“The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son.” (Mt. 22:2)

“The bridal paradigm is the most effective in transforming our hearts so that the first commandment may be restored to first place in the Body of Christ.”
Mike Bickle, Understanding the Message of the Bride of Christ, part 2.

“Jesus began His public ministry at a wedding (John 2:1-12), and He ended it declaring that the kingdom of God was like a wedding (Mat. 22:1-14). Jesus began His ministry to the apostles by revealing Himself as the Bridegroom God (Mat. 9:15) and ended it by calling them to cultivate intimacy with Him as the Bridegroom God (Mat. 25:8). Jesus’ ministry was first introduced by John the Baptist functioning as a friend of the Bridegroom (John 3:29); it was ended by the Apostle John revealing the Bride (Rev. 19-22).”

“Natural history ends with a Bride who has been made ready for her marriage to Jesus. The history of the redeemed before the wedding feast is the preparation for their life after it.” Mike Bickle, Studies in the Bride of Christ, Part 1, p. 3.

“The marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready....He said to me, ‘Write: ‘Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb.’” (Rev. 19:7-9)

Attributes of the Bridegroom and His Bride

- Holy, Faithful and True
- Perfect Love
- Intimacy
- Partnership
- Friendship
- Kings and Priests
- Delight
- Gladness {JOY}
- Secrets revealed
- Cherish
- Beauty
- Abandonment

John 14:21-23; 15; 17:22-24

Mark 12:30; 16:20

Matthew 16:24; 22:37

Luke 14:26-33

Romans 5:5

Rev. 3:21; 5:10

Psalm 18:19; 35; 25:14; 27:4; 45:10-11; 149:4

Phil. 2:6-8

II Cor. 8:9

Song of Solomon

Jealous

Ex 34:14

James 4:4-5

Numbers 25:1-13

Rev. 2:4

Zeal of the Lord

Isa. 9:6, 7; 42:13

Zech. 8:1-2

Rev. 19:2

Luke 18:7

Prov. 6:34

“This age will end with a worshiping and praying Church in a bridal identity. This passage is the most significant, most comprehensive, and clearest end-time prophecy. It reveals to us what the Spirit is saying and doing. The Church, in unity with the Spirit, will be anointed with power, engaged in intercession, established in her bridal identity, and effective in the harvest.” Mike Bickle, The Marriage Supper of the Lamb, Part 12.

“And they overcame him [satan/accuser] by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.” Rev. 12:11

The New Jerusalem

Rev. 21-22

“Natural history ends in an Eden-like city with Jesus and His people joined as a bridegroom and a bride. The New Jerusalem is called the Bride because it was prepared for the Bride and is where she experiences a face-to face relationship with God. The description of this city is given in relational terms or by our nearness to God and then in functional terms as the ultimate Garden of Eden and Holy of Holies.” Mike Bickle, Studies in the Bride of Christ, Part 1, P.2.

The Promise of His coming

II Peter 3:1-4

John 14:1-3 – “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.”

I Thess. 4:13-5:11

Acts 1:9-11

“And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.” Rev. 22:17

References:

Mike Bickle, studies in the Bride of Christ

Recommended Reading:

Passion for Jesus – Mike Bickle

The Bride – Gene Edwards

Abide in Christ – Andrew Murray

The Rapture Series DVD – Perry Stone

The Path; The Harvest – Rick Joyner

The Day of the Saints – Dr. Bill Hamon

Song of Solomon CD series, IHOP, Rhonda Calhoun